COCOANUT NURSERY

*115. [72] **N. V. Chacko:** Whether the North Travancore Chamber of Agriculture, Perumpavoor has requested the Government for opening a cocoanut nursery in the Kunnathunad taluk; and

(*b*) if so what action the Government has taken in the matter?

Minister for Industries, Excise and Local Self-Government **[Sri. N. Kunjuraman]:**

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The Chamber was informed that the matter was receiving the attention of Government. Reports have been obtained from those concerned. Further particulars are being gathered to take a final decision in the matter.

CONSTRUCTION OF A BRIDGE

*116. [73] **Sri. Paul Thaliath:** Will the Hon'ble Minister for Public Works be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the Government have finally decided to construct a bridge on the right hand branch of the Periyar river;

(*b*) if so, will the Central Government contribute any portion of the expenses for the construction of this bridge;

(*c*) the estimated expenditure for the same; and

(*d*) when the work will be started?

Minister for Public Works, Communications and Agriculture **[Sri.E. John Philipose]:**

(*a*) & (*b*) The matter is under consideration of the Government of India. As the bridge falls on the West Coast Road the financial responsibility of which has been assumed by the Central Government, the cost of construction of the bridge will be borne by that Government.

(*c*) No estimate has been prepared pending final decision.

(*d*) As soon as a final decision is arrived at in the matter, the work will be commenced.

QUILON-ERNAKULAM RAILWAY

*117. [75] **Sri. Eapen Arakal:** Will the Hon'ble Minister for Works and Communications be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the route of the proposed Quilon-Ernakulam railway has been finally fixed up;

(*b*) if so, what is that route; is it proposed to take the railway along the coastal region so as to link Alleppey with Cochin; or is it to go along the eastern side beyond Vembanad lake?

(*c*) have estimates for the route or routes been prepared;

(*d*) if answer to (*c*) is in the affirmative which is the route that is less expensive; and

(*e*) what would be the distance for which railway line will have to be built if the line is to be laid along (1) the eastern route beyond the Vembanad lake (2) the coastal region linking Alleppey with Cochin Harbour?

Minister for Public Works, Communications and Agriculture **[Sri.E. John Philipose]:**

(*a*) to (*b*) The survey of the proposed railway has only just commenced. The alignment and the probable cost can be known only after the survey is completed.

BRIDGE AT AROOR

*118. [76] **Sri. Eapen Arakal:** Will the Hon'ble Minister for Works and Communications be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the construction of the bridge at Aroor has been decided to be taken up in the near future; if so when;

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